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with Raleigh citizens and their representatives.

## raleigh arts flash

**June 17, 2010**

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## Vega Metals to Develop Art for Buffaloe Road Aquatic Center

Vega Metals, comprised of the artist-  
team of Neal Carlton and Francis Vega,  
has been selected to develop public art  
for Raleigh's new Buffaloe Road Aquatic  
Center. **Two hundred and sixteen (216)  
artists from around the country  
applied to participate!**

Winners of numerous awards, Vega  
Metals, located in Durham, have created  
gates, fences, sculptures and  
architectural metalwork for sites including  
Duke University (Sports Hall of Fame  
and Duke University Gardens), the  
Liberty Arts Pavilion in Durham, and  
most recently the 24-foot high water fountain sculpture for the  
Gateway Gardens in Greensboro (see photo).



*Hydrophyllum (2010) by  
Vega Metals*

Working with architect Roger Spears (Szostak Design), the  
artists will develop artwork to fulfill the Public Art & Design Board  
site goals. These include the creation of art that encourages  
visitors to reflect on the natural beauty of the park and enhances  
visitor experiences of the facility.

This is the first project authorized by the Half Percent for Art  
ordinance established by the Raleigh City Council in 2009 and  
implemented by Raleigh's Public Art and Design Board and the  
Raleigh Arts Commission. The new swimming center is  
scheduled to open in late summer of next year.

## Block Gallery and Block2 Call for Artists Deadline June 30!

Artists and independent curators living and/or  
working in Durham, Orange, and/or Wake  
counties are invited to submit applications for  
the 2011-2012 exhibition series at the Block

Gallery (Raleigh Municipal Building), and for the Block2 Street Video Series (Urban Design Center). All applications must be received by the Raleigh Arts Commission office by **June 30 at 4 p.m.**



For details and to download guidelines and the application form, visit [www.raleighnc.gov/arts](http://www.raleighnc.gov/arts) (click on Block Gallery). Questions? Contact [hannah.costner@raleighnc.gov](mailto:hannah.costner@raleighnc.gov).

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## Creative Industries Growing in the U.S.

Americans for the Arts recently released the 2010 Creative Industries Report offering an in-depth look at the scope and economic importance of culture in America. In our area (North Carolina Congressional District 13) **1,840 arts-related businesses employ 8,633 people!** From these statistics, it is clear that the creative industry is a growing segment of the local economy.



*More than 20,000 people attended this year's SPARKcon Festival. Photo by Jay Yager.*

According to a new CEO survey conducted by IBM's Institute for Business Value, CEOs identify "creativity" as the most important leadership competency for the successful enterprise of the future. Nationally, there are 668,267 businesses in the U.S. involved in the creation or distribution of the arts that employ more than 2.9 million people. To read the entire report, go to [Creative Industries Report](#).

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## Music Day at Marbles Kids Museum

Music Day at Marbles (201 E. Hargett St.) is **Saturday, July 3 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.!** Children ages 4-10 are invited to play instruments, listen to music, don a tux and be a conductor, learn notes, win performance tickets and enjoy hands-on activities throughout the museum! A full selection of instruments, including string, wind and percussion, will be available. Admission to the event is \$5 per person. Sponsors for this event include Cross Currents Chamber Music Festival, Ruggero Piano, Burrage Music and Community Music School. For more information, visit [www.marbleskidsmuseum.org](http://www.marbleskidsmuseum.org).



*Photo courtesy of Marbles Kids Museum.*

*Photos below (l-r): Block Gallery **earth/sky** exhibition opening, Mayor Meeker at Triangle Youth Symphony Concert (photo courtesy of Bing Shen), Even Exchange dancer at **earth/sky** reception.*



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